

# I. C. C. Accepts Road's Offer Of 10 P. C. Cut

Proposal to Reduce Freight Rates on Products of Farm, Excepting New England, Is Approved

Change on Short Notice

New Schedule Is To Be Tried Out for Six Months as Experiment

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—Voluntary railroad proposals for inauguration of a 10 per cent decrease in freight rates on practically all farm, range and orchard products in the United States, outside of New England, were accepted today by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Orders were issued allowing the railroads to disregard all usual restrictions in making up the new rate schedules as well as such violations of the long-and-short-haul clause of the interstate commerce act as might be brought about by percentage reductions. The orders permit the rates to be put into effect on one day's notice "on as early a date and in as inexpensive a manner as possible," for a six-month experimental period.

At the same time the commission left standing its order of October 20, requiring an approximate 16½ per cent rate decrease in grain, grain products and hay throughout the entire trans-Mississippi district, which the railroads were later instructed to put into effect by December 27. The railroad executives in applying to the commission last week suggested that the general 10 per cent decrease on agricultural products which they contended should apply to the Western grains and hay as well as the other commodities, become a substitute for the 16½ per cent.

No mention of this point in the railroad procedure was made by the commission today, except that grain, grain products and hay in Western territory were omitted from the permissive orders accepting the general decrease.

Reductions in New England territory, where the financial status of carriers is held not to justify a full 10 per cent decrease, also were contemplated in the voluntary application last week, and in the commission's orders today the roads concerned were given permission to make such decreases as they found possible "effective after a five-day notice period."

While the commission swept away all administrative barriers to the 10 per cent decrease it was pointed out that further steps would have to be taken by the railroad managements before the lower rate basis actually comes into effect. The commission's failure to consider the 10 per cent decrease on grains and hay as a substitute for the greater reduction it previously had ordered, it was said, might bring about proceedings and conferences.

At the same time the commission investigation into the reasonableness of the general level of transportation rates in the United States will begin next week, and if the railroads are disposed to withdraw their voluntary offer

the tariffs on the agricultural products may be left to adjudication in that proceeding.

## Roads Capitalize Public Interest, Warne Charges

Closes Testimony Before Congressmen With an Attack on "Economic Exploitation"

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—After giving testimony on the railroad question as representative of the employees for ten days and presenting a mass of material which rarely has been exceeded in a Congressional hearing, Dr. Frank J. Warne concluded today.

Dr. Warne said there was a crisis in the national life of the American people as regards the railroads. He charged the public interest in the railroad had been capitalized for private benefit.

"Much of the public interest in the railroads has been automatically and arbitrarily capitalized by the financial interests in control of the roads for the benefit of private groups and individuals. These now exercise 'squatter' sovereignty over property belonging to the people and which was never surrendered by them. In brief, the greater part of the interest of the public in the railroads, which was retained by it even in the charter grants to the roads, has been taken from it by the various methods of economic exploitation and is today 'legalized' as private property."

Dr. Warne continued: "There is unquestionably a crisis in the national life of the American people as regards their railroads—a crisis not alone for the corporate stockholders and the financial manipulators of the intercorporate system upon which our railroads rest. The crisis is the demand of railway interests and of financiers controlling them that instrumentalities of government of the American people shall legalize their fraudulent and highly inflated property investment and capital obligations accounts, and that the government shall make effective sufficiently high freight and passenger rates so as to pay a return on these values."

## I. C. C. Authority Fought In Court by Two States

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The states of Texas and North Dakota filed in the Supreme Court today briefs questioning the authority of the Interstate Commerce Commission to regulate railroad rates, fares and charges on traffic within its borders.

The Texas brief declared all railroads in the state, with the exception of one, are operated under charters and with valuable grants of right of way from the state, which expressly provide that the laws of the state be accepted as a part of the charter and have binding force upon the carriers; that the cost of constructing and operating railroads in the state were materially less than elsewhere in the Western freight group and that accordingly rates, fares and charges in the state should not be based on the valuation of railroads in that group; and that the state without its consent could not be made a party before the Interstate Commerce Commission or in the lower courts in justiciable questions

which can only be determined by the Supreme Court of the United States. The North Dakota brief contends that the orders of the commission were illegal because the commission directed blanket increases which operated to deprive the states of power to regulate commerce within their borders. The commission also was held to have assumed jurisdiction over state rates and to have increased them without examination of each rate involved.

## Jewish Bakery Truce Fails

Representatives of the five unions of bakery and confectionery workers and the master bakers of Jewish bread

failed to reach an agreement at a meeting held yesterday with Commissioner Edward J. O'Malley, of the Department of Public Markets. An attempt was made to lower the price of Jewish bread and to change the regulations affecting working conditions and wages of bakers.

A representative of the five bakers and confectioners' unions said, after the meeting, that the unions would not recognize the Master Bakers' Association and particularly would not enter into any negotiations with its representative. The unions, he said, had contracts, valid until next May, with the individual bakers, and until that time at least there was no necessity for negotiations affecting the working conditions, hours of labor or pay of bakers of Jewish bread.

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# Christmas Sale of Choice Re-Built PIANOS

THE following instruments are from New York's best homes. Many, having been exchanged for the marvelous AMPICO REPRODUCING PIANOS, are in the new condition they were when they left the original warerooms. . . . All are fully guaranteed. . . . Many Priced Less Than One-Half Original Cost.

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Read the Partial List Below of the Many Wonderful Offerings. Note the Prices. Such Bargains Cannot be Equalled.

UPRIGHT PIANOS	PLAYER PIANOS
Bach, a bargain \$65	Walters, large size \$345
Schuyler, excellent shape 85	Brewster, mahogany, perfect 390
Klingman, mahogany 95	Kroeger, mahogany, superb 410
Kingsbury, oak, fine value 125	Reinhardt, colonial, mahogany 415
Kohler & Campbell, oak, colonial 195	Behning, mahogany, like new 495
Waters, mahogany, splendid tone 210	Stuyvesant, mahogany, perfect 510
Haines Bros., ebony, perfect 250	Foster, walnut, a gem 525
Emerson, mahogany, like new 295	Hardman Autotone, mahogany 660
Sohmer, walnut, bargain 345	Knabe, reconstructed, perfect 740
Hardman, excellent 350	Weber Pianola, as new 785
Chickering, walnut, wonderful value 375	Steinway Pianola, mahogany 965
Sohmer, colonial, walnut, as new 390	Knabe De Luxe, mahogany 970
Weber, mahogany, as new 415	Wheelock Duo-Art, mahogany 975
Knabe, mahogany, rare value 440	Welte-Mignon, mahogany 1275
Mason & Hamlin, perfect shape 530	Steinway, player grand 1285
Knabe, mahogany, rebuilt 540	Armstrong De Luxe, player grand 1295
Knabe, colonial, a gem 660	Steinway Pianola, 2nd 1780
	Steinway Duo-Art, grand, mahogany 2840

## GRAND PIANOS

Behr Bros., as new, a bargain \$595	Knabe Mignon, mahogany, exceptional \$1225
James & Holmstrom, mahogany 645	Chickering, ebony, like new 1370
Knabe Baby, rosewood, perfect tone 990	Knabe Mignonette, Louis XV, mahogany 1490
Haines Bros., mahogany, perfect 995	Knabe Mignon, mahogany, Sheraton Art Case, superb in tone and design 1585
Knabe Mignon, ebony, a gem 1065	
Steinway, like new 1135	
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From \$5.00 to 10.00

From \$10.00 to 25.00

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Boudoir Caps  
Boudoir Slippers  
Shoe Buckles  
Men's Silk Scarfs  
Men's Half-hose (silk or wool)  
Auto-stop Razors  
Waving Irons  
Lingerie Collar-and-Cuff Sets  
Evening Scarfs  
Silkoline Comfortables  
Marie Antoinette Lace Curtains (pair)

Tapestry Footstools (mahogany-finish frame)  
Cut Glass Atomizers  
Leather Music Cases  
Candlesticks (mahogany, glass or brass)  
Infants' Silk Afghans  
Misses' Silk Breakfast Coats  
Girls' Rain Capes  
Men's Silver-trimmed Walking Sticks  
Brass Cigarette Boxes  
Hip Boots; pin-seal, gold-trimmed  
Traveling Pillows  
Blanket Robes

Tapestry Scarfs (for table or piano)  
Leather Utility Boxes (decorated)  
Silk Pajamas (for men or women)  
Sterling Silver Bon-bon Dishes  
Over-night Bags  
Mahogany Serving Trays  
Wrist Watches (sterling silver or gold-filled); with ribbon bracelet  
Bronze Busts  
Suit Cases  
Bill Folds, gold-mounted  
Motor Luncheon Cases, fitted  
All-wool Blankets (pair)

For Monday

## Three Hundred Women's Blouses

variously fashioned of georgette, crepe de Chine and net (the silk models embellished with embroidery or hand-made fillet; the net, with dainty frills of the same material), have been taken from regular stock and greatly reduced to the uniform price of

\$3.90

(Blouse Department, Third Floor)

Beginning Monday

## Important Reductions

will be made in the prices of a quantity of

Women's

## Philippine Lingerie

including

Nightrobes	\$2.65 & 3.50
Envelopes	2.85 & 3.50
Drawers	1.25, 1.75 & 2.90
Corset Covers	95c. & 2.65
Petticoats,	95c., 1.75 & 2.90

Many pieces of Paris-made Lingerie have also been re-priced at large concessions from former quotations.

(Second Floor)

For Monday

## A Special Sale of Women's

## Flannelette Nightwear

at unusually low prices

150 Dozen Flannelette Nightgowns each \$1.35

75 Dozen Flannelette Pajamas in one- and two-piece models either style \$1.95

(Second Floor)

For Monday

## A Special Purchase of Metal Girdles

all in handsome and extremely fashionable designs (some of them adorned with colored stones), will be

exceptionally low-priced at

\$4.50

War Revenue tax additional

(First Floor)

The

## Hosiery Department

offers many opportunities for selecting practical Christmas gifts; including

Women's Hosiery

Silk, with lisle tops and soles; black, white and colors, per pair \$1.75, 2.50

All silk; black, white and colors, per pair \$2.95 & 3.50

All silk, with openwork instep or clocks; black, white, gray and African brown per pair \$3.50

(Silk hose priced above \$2.00 is subject to tax)

Ribbed wool hose, in the fashionable effects per pair \$2.25 & 3.50

Men's Half-hose

(in black, white and colors)

Silk, with lisle tops and soles, per pair \$1.10

Silk, with lisle soles, per pair 2.25

All silk per pair 1.65 & 3.25

(Silk half-hose priced above \$1.00 is subject to tax)

Also

Wool Half-hose, heather mixtures, per pair \$1.25

Imported Wool Half-hose, novelty effects per pair \$1.50

Derby Ribbed Wool Half-hose, plain colors per pair \$2.25

(First Floor)

## NEW YORK HEADQUARTERS ELECTRICAL XMAS TREE OUTFITS, Electric Appliances LIONEL RAILWAYS



GRAND DISPLAY OF LIONEL TRAINS AT REDUCED PRICES  
"O" gauge, 75, \$6.50, \$7.50, \$11.50, \$15.50.  
Standard gauge, \$15.00, \$17.00, \$18.75, \$24.00, \$26.75.  
Special Lionel Transformers, \$3.40  
Others, 75c. up.  
High voltage train outfit with bulbs, 25c.  
Trucks, switches, cars, lamp posts, bridges, gasolines, etc., at reduced prices.

## 9 Light String Xmas Tree

Lighting outfit this year, instead of the 8-light set of the past, will positively put every once and for all.

Xmas Tree Lighting Troubles  
It is the (9th Lamp) that does the trick.

Why didn't someone think of it before? Why didn't they make an eye stand on one end until Columbus came along and did the trick. However, advertising space is very expensive. Hence 9-LIGHT OUTFIT with 9 different colored metalized filament bulbs ready for use on any house current. \$2.25

With 9 different colored tungsten bulbs instead \$2.75  
SPECIAL SALE ON OTHER OUTFITS

We have on hand thousands of XMAS TREE OUTFITS of the ordinary type; the same as are sold elsewhere from \$2.50 to \$4.00 per set, also in order to dispose of them quickly we are going to SELL THEM AT COST WHILE THEY LAST.  
8-LIGHT SET with 8 different colored metalized filament bulbs ready for use on any house current or battery; regular selling price, \$2.50; our price, \$1.39  
With 8 different colored tungsten bulbs instead, and better color, regular selling price \$3.00. Our price, \$1.75  
Same for battery use, \$1.50  
The better cord outfit with 8 different colored bulbs, regular selling price \$4.00. Our price, \$2.00  
POSTAGE 15c. EXTRA ON ALL MAIL ORDERS.

1 BULB FREE with every outfit. If you bring this ad. with you we are selling XMAS TREE ELECTRICAL BULBS AT WHOLESALE PRICES.  
2 1/2 or 1 1/2 V. large pear shape, all colors, per dozen, \$1.00  
3 1/2 or 1 1/2 V. large pear shape, all colors, per box of 24, \$2.00; same per dozen, \$1.00  
Large fancy bulbs, greatest variety in the country, per dozen, \$1.50  
Xmas Tree Lighting Batteries packed in beautiful bully boxes and ready for use.  
4 volt 20 ampere, \$1.00  
4 volt 30 ampere, \$1.50  
4 volt 55 ampere, \$2.00

Marka Storage Batteries, regular selling price \$12.00 (Special).  
3 in. BELL & HOWELL ELECTRIC BOUDDER LAMP. Can be used as a candle or a reading or boudoir lamp. Beautiful in appearance, highly nickel plated, complete with battery (ordinary flashlight battery) and \$1.50 for use.  
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